

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions of the claims.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An assembly mountable on a machine, including
an implement provided with a pair of mounting brackets each having a pair of opposed pin receiving recesses, said implement is selected from a group of implements having varying sized and shaped recesses,
a dipper stick operatively connectable to said machine for selective movements and having a first connecting pin rotatably mounted in an end thereof and receivable in one of said implement recesses of each bracket,
a fluid actuated cylinder assembly having a cylinder member pivotally connectable to said dipper stick and a rod member provided with an operatively connected pin rotatable relative thereto and receivable in the other of said implement recesses of each bracket, and
a pair of spacer links each disposed on a side of said dipper stick and spaced therefrom, and operable to selectively maintain said connecting pins in retracted, inoperative positions permitting said connecting pins to be maneuvered and inserted into or removed from said implement recesses, and in extended, operative positions within said implement recesses, detachably coupling said implement to said dipper stick,
an adapter assembly comprising:
a pair of bushings each mountable on one of said connecting pins between one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins to said rod member, and one of said spacer links, each bushing selected from a group of bushings having varying configurations, said selected bushing having a configuration receivable within and conforming to one of said implement recesses for the selected implement.
2. (Previously Presented) An assembly accordingly to claim 1 wherein each of said bushings has a cylindrical exterior surface receivable within an implement recess having a curved surface.

3. (Previously Presented) An adapter according to claim 1 wherein each of said bushings has a length sufficient to receive a mounting bracket of said implement between said one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins to said rod member, and said spacer link.
4. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 1 including a washer disposable between each of said bushings and said one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins and said rod member.
5. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 4 wherein said washer includes an annular, beveled surface, and including an annular seal disposed between said beveled surface and said one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins and said rod member.
6. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 1 wherein each of said bushings includes a cylindrical bore therethrough for receiving said connecting pin therethrough and a cylindrical exterior surface disposed eccentrically relative to said cylindrical bore, and wherein said bushing may be angularly displaced relative to the axis of said connecting pin to alter the spacing of the outer surfaces of said connecting pins to accommodate implement mounting brackets with different spacing between the opposed recesses thereof.
7. (Original) An assembly according to claim 1 wherein there is provided a first pair of said bushings each disposable between said dipper stick and one of said spacer links, and a second pair of said bushings each disposable between said operative connection of said one of said connecting pins and one of said spacer links.
8. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 1 wherein each of said bushings includes a head section and integral shank section.

9. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 8 wherein each of said shank sections has a cylindrical exterior surface receivable within an implement recess having a curved surface.

10. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 8 wherein each of said shank sections has a length sufficient to receive a mounting bracket of said implement between its head section and its respective spacer link.

11. (Previously Presented) An assembly according to claim 8 wherein each of said bushings includes a cylindrical bore therethrough for receiving its respective connecting pin therethrough and a shank section having a cylindrical exterior surface disposed eccentrically relative to said cylindrical bore, and wherein each of said bushings may be angularly displaced relative to the axis of its respective connecting pin to vary the spacing between the outer surfaces of said connecting pins to accommodate implement mounting brackets with different spacing between the opposed recesses thereof.

12. (New 1, 4) An assembly mountable on a machine, including an implement provided with a pair of mounting brackets each having a pair of opposed pin receiving recesses, a dipper stick operatively connectable to said machine for selective movements and having a first connecting pin rotatably mounted in an end thereof and receivable in one of said implement recesses of each bracket, a fluid actuated cylinder assembly having a cylinder member pivotally connectable to said dipper stick and a rod member provided with an operatively connected pin rotatable relative thereto and receivable in the other of said implement recesses of each bracket, and a pair of spacer links each disposed on a side of said dipper stick and spaced therefrom, and operable to selectively maintain said connecting pins in retracted, inoperative positions permitting said connecting pins to be maneuvered and inserted into or removed from said implement recesses, and in extended, operative positions within said implement recesses, detachably coupling said implement to said dipper stick, an adapter assembly comprising:

a pair of bushings each mountable on one of said connecting pins between one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins to said rod member,

and one of said spacer links, selected from a group of bushings having varying configurations, having a configuration receivable within and conforming to one of said implement recesses, and a washer disposable between each of said bushings and said one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins and said rod member.

13. (New 5) An assembly according to claim 12 wherein said washer includes an annular, beveled surface, and including an annular seal disposed between said beveled surface and said one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins and said rod member.

14. (New 1, 6) An assembly mountable on a machine, including an implement provided with a pair of mounting brackets each having a pair of opposed pin receiving recesses, a dipper stick operatively connectable to said machine for selective movements and having a first connecting pin rotatably mounted in an end thereof and receivable in one of said implement recesses of each bracket, a fluid actuated cylinder assembly having a cylinder member pivotally connectable to said dipper stick and a rod member provided with an operatively connected pin rotatable relative thereto and receivable in the other of said implement recesses of each bracket, and a pair of spacer links each disposed on a side of said dipper stick and spaced therefrom, and operable to selectively maintain said connecting pins in retracted, inoperative positions permitting said connecting pins to be maneuvered and inserted into or removed from said implement recesses, and in extended, operative positions within said implement recesses, detachably coupling said implement to said dipper stick, an adapter assembly comprising:

a pair of bushings each mountable on one of said connecting pins between one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins to said rod member, and one of said spacer links, selected from a group of bushings having varying configurations, having a configuration receivable within and conforming to one of said implement recesses, wherein each of said bushings includes a cylindrical bore therethrough for receiving said connecting pin therethrough and a cylindrical exterior surface disposed eccentrically relative to said cylindrical bore, and wherein said bushing may be angularly displaced relative to the axis of said connecting pin to alter the spacing of the outer surfaces of said connecting pins to

accommodate implement mounting brackets with different spacing between the opposed recesses thereof.

15. (New) An assembly accordingly to claim 14 wherein each of said bushings has a cylindrical exterior surface receivable within an implement recess having a curved surface.

16. (New) An adapter according to claim 14 wherein each of said bushings has a length sufficient to receive a mounting bracket of said implement between said one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins to said rod member, and said spacer link.

17. (New) An assembly according to claim 14 including a washer disposable between each of said bushings and said one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins and said rod member.

18. (New) An assembly according to claim 17 wherein said washer includes an annular, beveled surface, and including an annular seal disposed between said beveled surface and said one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins and said rod member.

19. (New) An assembly according to claim 14 wherein each of said bushings includes a head section and integral shank section.

20. (New) An assembly according to claim 19 wherein each of said shank sections has a length sufficient to receive a mounting bracket of said implement between its head section and its respective spacer link.

21. (New 1, 8, 9) An assembly mountable on a machine, including an implement provided with a pair of mounting brackets each having a pair of opposed pin receiving recesses, a dipper stick operatively connectable to said machine for selective movements and having a first

connecting pin rotatably mounted in an end thereof and receivable in one of said implement recesses of each bracket, a fluid actuated cylinder assembly having a cylinder member pivotally connectable to said dipper stick and a rod member provided with an operatively connected pin rotatable relative thereto and receivable in the other of said implement recesses of each bracket, and a pair of spacer links each disposed on a side of said dipper stick and spaced therefrom, and operable to selectively maintain said connecting pins in retracted, inoperative positions permitting said connecting pins to be maneuvered and inserted into or removed from said implement recesses, and in extended, operative positions within said implement recesses, detachably coupling said implement to said dipper stick, an adapter assembly comprising:

a pair of bushings each mountable on one of said connecting pins between one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins to said rod member, and one of said spacer links, selected from a group of bushings having varying configurations, having a configuration receivable within and conforming to one of said implement recesses, wherein each of said bushings includes a head section and integral shank section, each of said shank sections having a cylindrical exterior surface receivable within an implement recess having a curved surface.

22. (New 1, 8, 11) An assembly mountable on a machine, including an implement provided with a pair of mounting brackets each having a pair of opposed pin receiving recesses, a dipper stick operatively connectable to said machine for selective movements and having a first connecting pin rotatably mounted in an end thereof and receivable in one of said implement recesses of each bracket, a fluid actuated cylinder assembly having a cylinder member pivotally connectable to said dipper stick and a rod member provided with an operatively connected pin rotatable relative thereto and receivable in the other of said implement recesses of each bracket, and a pair of spacer links each disposed on a side of said dipper stick and spaced therefrom, and operable to selectively maintain said connecting pins in retracted, inoperative positions permitting said connecting pins to be maneuvered and inserted into or removed from said implement recesses, and in extended, operative positions within said implement recesses, detachably coupling said implement to said dipper stick, an adapter assembly comprising:

a pair of bushings each mountable on one of said connecting pins between one of said dipper stick and said operative connection of one of said connecting pins to said rod member, and one of said spacer links, selected from a group of bushings having varying configurations, having a configuration receivable within and conforming to one of said implement recesses, wherein each of said bushings includes a head section and integral shank section and each of said bushings includes a cylindrical bore therethrough for receiving its respective connecting pin therethrough and a shank section having a cylindrical exterior surface disposed eccentrically relative to said cylindrical bore, and wherein each of said bushings may be angularly displaced relative to the axis of its respective connecting pin to vary the spacing between the outer surfaces of said connecting pins to accommodate implement mounting brackets with different spacing between the opposed recesses thereof.